

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02

USIA-06 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 IO-13

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5104

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SELA, OAS, UNCTAD, BR

SUBJECT: SELA

1. DURING CALL ON MINISTER PAULO MONTEIRA LIMA, CHIEF OF FONMIN'S OAS DIVISION, APRIL 14, EMBOFF INQUIRED OF STATUS OF UPCOMING SELA MEETING. LIMA REPLIED THAT THE DATES OF MAY 20-26 IN CARACAS MIGHT BE CHANGED TO JUNE 7-14; THE REQUEST FOR THE CHANGE WAS INITIATED BY VENEZUELA AND MEXICO. ACCORDING TO LIMA THESE TWO COUNTRIES WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMING UP WITH CONCRETE ECONOMIC PROJECTS TO RECOMMEND TO SELA AND WERE HAVING DIFFICULTY DOING SO. HE SUGGESTED THAT THIS DELAY, IF AGREED TO, WOULD NOT NECESSARILY SOLVE THE DIFFICULTY.

2. THE GOB HAS ADVISED THE SELA SECRETARIAT THAT IT HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE CHANGE. EMBOFF ASKED WHETHER THE RESULTING CONFLICT IN DATES WITH OAS SANTIAGO MEETING WERE A CONCERN TO THE GOB. LIMA ONLY ALLOWED THAT IT WOULD TAX HIS SMALL STAFF SOMEWHAT BUT HE PERSONALLY WOULD GO TO ONLY THE OAS MEETING AND NOT SELA IN ANY CASE. (FONMIN SENT FIRST
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SECRETARY BASSUL NETTO FROM LIMA'S DIVISION TO JANUARY

MEETING OF SELA; AMBASSADOR MACIEL CAME FROM GENEVA TO
HEAD THE BRAZILIAN DELEGATION.)

3. ACCORDING TO LIMA, THE MOST USEFUL FUNCTION OF SELA
TO DATE WAS THE DEVELOPMENT IN JANUARY OF A COORIDINATED LATIN
AMERICAN POSITION FOR UNCTAD IV WHICH HAD ALREADY SURFACED
AT THE G-77 MEETING IN MANILA. LIMA COMMENTED THAT CECLA,
WHICH HAD BEEN FORMED IN 1963 TO FORMULATE THE LATIN
AMERICAN POSITION FOR THE FIRST UNCTAD MEETING AND STAYED
ON AS A COORDINATING MECHANISM, WOULD NOW PRESUMABLY BE
ABSORBED BY SELA. "AT LEAST CECLA WILL HAVE A SECRETARIAT
NOW," LIMA OBSERVED DRYLY.

4. LIMA INDICATED THAT NEITHER OF THE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH
HAD BEEN EXPECTED TO AFFILIATE WITH SELA HAD DONE SO TO
DATE--NAMELY THE PROPOSED CARIBBEAN MARITIME FLEET AND THE
LATIN AMERICAN-CARIBBEAN SUGAR PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION. THE
LATTER, GEPLACEA, MET IN CALI, COLUMBIA, IN MARCH WITHOUT
TAKING ACTION TO ASSOCIATE THEMSELVES WITH SELA.
CRIMMINS

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